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| To: | Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks | From: | William W. Stagg |
| Fax: | 703-872-9310 | Pages: | 10 |
| Phone: | 703-308-0684 | Date: | October 30, 2003 |
| Re: Serial Number: 09/900,264 - "Method for Handling and Disposing of Drill Cuttings" ATTN: Popovics, Robert J. | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urgent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Review | | <input type="checkbox"/> Please Comment | <input type="checkbox"/> Please Reply |
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• Comments:

Filing of Response to Office Action of September 30, 2003

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Kenneth J. Boutte and Ban D. Green

Serial No. 09/900,264
Filing Date: July 26, 2001

For: Method for Handling
and Disposing of Drill Cuttings

Examiner: Popovics, Robert J.

Art Unit: 1724

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 30, 2003

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a Response to the Office Action on the merits dated September 30, 2003 in the above identified application.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

William W. Stagg
Reg. No. 31,225
Attorney for Applicant

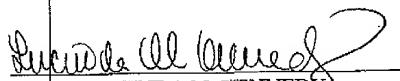
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Enclosures: Response to Office Action of 09/30/03
Certificate of Transmission

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I, Lucinda M. Kennedy, certify that the foregoing Response to Office Action of September 30, 2003 is being transmitted by facsimile transmission pursuant to 37 CFR 1.6 on this 30th day of October, 2003.


LUCINDA M. KENNEDY

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Kenneth J. Boutte and Ben D. Green

Serial No. 09/900,264

Filing Date: July 26, 2001

Examiner: Popovics, Robert J.

For: Method for handling
and Disposing of Drill Cuttings

Art Unit: 1724

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

October 30, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of September 30, 2003, kindly note the following:

The Applicants hereby amend their Claims by electing claims 1 – 10 and 22 – 35 for further examination, withdrawing from consideration Claims 11 – 21 as set forth on the following sheet entitled "Amendments to Claims".

REMARKS

1. In Applicants' response to Office Action 01 dated June 26, 2003 Applicants added four (4) new claims, claims 32 – 35. Applicant now has 35 total claims. In the Office Action 02 of September 30, 2003 the Examiner found that Claims 1-9 (sic, actually 1-10) and 21 – 36(sic, actually 22-35) were drawn to a Method of Processing Drill Cuttings, classified in Class 175, Subclass 66 and that Claims 10 - 20 (sic, actually 11 - 21) were drawn to a Separator Apparatus, classified in Class 209, Subclass 13. It was thought by the Examiner that these inventions were distinct and that restriction for examination purposes is proper. The undersigned attorney for Applicants attempted to reach the Examiner by telephone to clarify the claim numbers but was unable to do so.